
BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year

1949.

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HEALTH AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE, 1949.

Councillor S. Kermode (Chairman).

His Worship The Mayor (Alderman E. J. Slinn)

Alderman A. V. Northover.

Councillor R. W. Hawkins.

Councillor T. H. McArdle.

Councillor W. E. Morgan.

Councillor Mrs. E. M. W. Power.

Councillor R. W. Smith.

Councillor J. Vaughan.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

D. J. N. McNab, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(Also Medical Officer of Health of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge, and an Assistant County Medical Officer for the County of Hampshire).

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

F. Le V. Friend, S.R.N., M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

J. G. Jenkins, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (Resigned February, 1949).

A. F. Saunders, M.S.I.A. •

J. H. Stokes, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H.
(Commenced duties 1st June, 1949).

BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1949.

To The MAYOR, ALDERMEN and COUNCILLORS
of the BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH.

I submit for your information and consideration my third annual report on the health and circumstances of your Borough.

Appended to this report is that of your Chief Sanitary Inspector in which he deals in detail with those sections of the work of the Health Department which are peculiarly his province.

This has been the first full year of working of the National Health Service Act. General practitioners have found their surgeries crowded beyond recognition, not always with patients whose visits were really necessary; hospital waiting lists have shown further lengthy increases, and this is particularly so in the case of tuberculosis; there has been a tremendous increase in the demand on the ambulance and hospital car services, to the extent that a certain amount of abuse of the services appears indicated; immunisation and vaccination have fallen off to a marked degree; and on the part of the medical officers working the scheme, particularly the general practitioners, there has been considerable discontent over payment. None the less the salary scales have been much more attractive than those offered to medical and dental officers in the public health services and this, in conjunction with the removal from the public health sphere of many of the activities previously controlled by it, such as the municipal and isolation hospitals, the tuberculosis and venereal disease services, has made public health much less attractive. The number of new entrants has fallen off to such an extent that its very future is seriously jeopardised. We have seen how the school dental services have broken down in many areas, and it may well be that the revolution wrought by the National Health Service Act heralds the beginning of the end of the Public Health Service as we have known it, and that it may eventually be incorporated as part of the National Health Service on a regional basis without local authority control, or alternatively become a government service subject to central control.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS:

The Borough of Christchurch lies on the coast in the South-West corner of Hampshire at the confluence of the rivers Avon and Stour. It is built on a subsoil of gravel and sand and by its situation is blessed with a pleasantly equable climate. An ancient town, it is contiguous to the New Forest and virtually continuous with its youthful neighbour, Bournemouth. The western part of the town is largely built up and all development is to the east between the old town and Highcliff, which was included within the boundary in 1932.

The town houses a surprising amount of varied light industry in addition to two large government establishments and an aircraft factory. In spite of the extent to which the area is built up agriculture and dairy farming are still of significance, and fishermen still catch the noted Christchurch salmon.

RAINFALL FOR 1949:

January	0.46	July	0.21
February	0.94	August	0.66
March	1.22	September	3.72
April	1.70	October	6.76
May	1.33	November	3.27
June	0.30	December	1.50

Total: 22.07 inches.

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area: 5,198 acres.
Population: Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1949:
 Civilian: 19,040. **Total:** 19,130.
Number of inhabited houses: 5,962.
Rateable Value, 1/4/49: £164,179.
Sum represented by a penny rate: £665 13s. 11d.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1949 (as supplied by the Registrar-General):

Live Births.	Total.	Male.	Female.
Total	323	164	159
Legitimate	304	156	148
Illegitimate	19	8	11
Still Births.			
Total	6	2	4
Legitimate	6	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Deaths.			
Total	261	128	133
Infant Mortality.			
(Deaths of infants under 1 year).			
Total	12	10	2
Legitimate	11	9	2
Illegitimate	1	1	-
Maternal Mortality.			
Deaths from puerperal causes	2	-	2

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS

	Borough of Christchurch.	England and Wales.
Birth Rate		
per 1,000 estimated population	17.0	16.7
Stillbirth Rate.		
per 1,000 estimated population	0.31	0.39
Death Rate (Comparability Factor 0.73).		
per 1,000 estimated population	13.7	11.7
after application of comparability factor...	10.0	
Infant Mortality Rate.		
(Under 1 year of age).		
all causes per 1,000 live births	37.0	32.0
Maternal Mortality Rate.		
per 1,000 total (live and still) births.		
Abortion with sepsis	0.00	0.11
Abortion without sepsis	0.00	0.05
Puerperal infections	3.04	0.11
Other maternal causes	0.00	0.71
Special Causes.		
Death Rate per 1,000 population:		
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00
Influenza	0.05	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.42	0.45
Enteritis (under 2 years) per 1,000 live births	0.00	3.00
Acute Poliomyelitis Polioencephalitis ...	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	0.47	0.51

Year.	Population.	Borough of Christchurch.			England & Wales.		
		I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.
1929	8,728	49.0	18.6	11.1	74	16.3	13.4
1932	11,250	62.5	17.0	11.3	65	15.3	12.0
1936	13,080	53.1	15.8	12.2	59	14.8	12.1
1940	15,330	24.7	13.1	12.8	55	14.6	14.3
1944	14,810	30.0	22.3	14.2	46	17.6	11.6
1945	16,680	36.1	18.3	11.7	46	16.1	11.4
1946	17,760	39.5	18.5	12.3	43	19.1	11.5
1947	18,180	30.0	19.7	12.76	41	20.5	12.0
1948	19,190	16.0	16.1	11.25	34	17.9	10.8
1949	19,040	37.0	17.0	13.7	32	16.7	11.7

Causes of Death.

	Males.	Females.
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	2
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—
8. Syphilitic diseases	1	1
9. Influenza	—	1
10. Measles	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	—	—
12. Acute Infective Encephalitis (Sleepy Sickness)	—	—
13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M)	2	—
Uterus (F)	—	2
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	3
15. Cancer of breast	—	7
16. Cancer of all other sites	16	12
17. Diabetes	—	—
18. Intracranial Vascular Lesions	15	9
19. Heart Diseases	41	54
20. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	3	5
21. Bronchitis	7	7
22. Pneumonia	3	6
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	1
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	—
26. Appendicitis	1	—
27. Other digestive diseases	—	3
28. Nephritis	2	2
29. Puerperal and Post-abortive sepsis	—	2
30. Other maternal causes	—	—
31. Premature birth	4	—
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	5	2
33. Suicide	1	—
34. Road Traffic Accidents	1	—
35. Other violent causes	5	3
36. All other causes	10	10
TOTAL (All Causes)	128	133

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE:

The Borough experienced a severe outbreak of Measles during February, March and April. Of the 331 cases which were notified during the year 301 occurred in these three months. The outbreak was part of an epidemic which spread across the County from the east, and it produced the greatest number of cases which has been recorded in this area since notification of Measles was introduced in 1940. In spite of the number of cases no deaths attributed to Measles occurred throughout the year, a tribute to the efficacy of modern chemotherapeutic and antibiotic drugs. The prevalence of the other notifiable diseases was extremely low.

For the second year in succession no cases of diphtheria occurred.

The table shows the notifications throughout 1949 with comparative notification rates for the whole of England and Wales.

Disease.	Number notified.	Rate per 1,000 population.	
		Borough of Christchurch.	England and Wales.
Scarlet Fever	14	0.73	1.63
Whooping Cough	14	0.73	2.39
Diphtheria	-	0.00	0.04
Erysipelas	1	0.05	0.19
Measles	331	17.38	8.95
Pneumonia	8	0.42	0.80
Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	5	0.26	0.14
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	-	0.00	0.02
Food Poisoning... ..	-	0.00	0.14

POLIOMYELITIS:

1949 was once again the occasion of a country-wide epidemic of poliomyelitis, comparable with, though less severe than, the epidemic of 1947. The epidemic started later but lasted longer than its predecessor, possibly owing to the unusually warm and dry weather in the late summer and early autumn. Five cases of polimyclitis occurred, four in mid-summer and the last at the end of December. It is an odd coincidence that all five were females, three being children who all had paralytic symptoms; one, an adolescent who was a contact of an outside case, and had no paralysis; and the fifth who was employed as a nurse in a children's nursery died of bulbar paralysis. Full enquiry was made into all the cases, and apart from the girl already mentioned no source of infection was traced and no secondary cases are known to have occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS:

I remarked in last year's report on the new situation in the administration of the tuberculosis services introduced by the National Health Service Act, and expressed my apprehension that, in removing the control and treatment of this disease from the public health authorities, a step was being taken which was likely to react unfavourably on the downward trend of the disease. It is too early yet to say whether these fears are justified but they are widely held among public health officers. The situation is of course accentuated by the desperate shortage of sanatorium beds which has coincided, and whereby large numbers of infectious cases must necessarily remain at home giving rise to prolonged risk to their contacts. On the face of it, it would seem inevitable that an increase in tuberculosis, particularly the pulmonary infection, must occur.

Notification figures show an increase over the previous year's high figure but the increase is not significant.

New Cases and Mortality 1932 to 1949.

				New Cases.				Deaths.			
				Non-				Non-			
				Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1932	...	...	...	1	7	-	3	2	3	-	-
1936	...	...	...	4	4	2	1	1	-	2	-
1940	...	...	...	10	1	2	4	5	1	-	-
1944	...	...	...	5	2	2	2	1	2	-	-
1945	...	...	...	11	4	2	2	-	2	1	1
1946	...	...	...	8	7	1	2	6	-	1	-
1947	...	...	...	19	17	1	2	2	3	-	-
1948	...	...	...	15	10	1	4	2	1	-	1
1949	...	...	...	19	9	1	2	6	2	-	-

Towards the end of the year an enquiry was conducted into the present condition of a number of cases figuring on the tuberculosis register of whom there was no recent information. As a result 40 names were removed from the register and there now remain 126 notified tuberculosis cases in the area, 102 suffering from pulmonary disease and 24 who have the disease elsewhere.

It is a matter of some interest that there are 75 names remaining on the register of patients notified as suffering from tuberculosis since August, 1945. Of this number 30 are recorded as having moved into the district while suffering from the disease, that is, 40% of the total. It is thus seen how an area such as this may, because of its reputation as a health resort, contain a disproportionately large number of tuberculous persons, who may in turn, since the disease is an infectious one, do something to increase the number of native cases.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:

The figures of diphtheria immunisation show a sharp falling off in numbers as compared with the previous year, except in the case of refresher doses, where an increase of 140% is largely due to the special sessions held in schools which were organised by this department.

The decrease in primary immunisation was to be expected and is largely due to the situation caused by the introduction of the National Health Service Act, whereby the administration of immunising agents became one of the items of service of general practitioners participating in the scheme. Formerly such practitioners carried out immunisation on behalf of the Local Authority and were paid an agreed fee for each injection, the size of the fee depending on whether the treatment was carried out at the patient's home or at the doctor's surgery. Now no such fee is payable, though, as a placebo, it was agreed that the practitioner should be paid what amounts to a notification fee for supplying a record of the immunisation to the Local Health Authority. The negotiations over this fee between the British Medical Association, the Associations of Local Authorities, and the Ministry of Health, were exceedingly protracted and agreement was not reached until 18 months after the Act came into force. The effect of the prolonged delay was markedly to reduce the enthusiasm of general practitioners for immunisation, and it seems possible that it may never again reach its former peak in view of the reduced financial inducement and the greater volume of other work which now falls to them.

During the year 259 children were immunised for the first time. Of these 211 were under the age of five and 58 were over five; 331 children previously immunised received refresher doses.

The proportion of children born within the previous twelve months who have been immunised is 55%. 71% of all children under 15 have at one time or another received immunisation treatment.

WATER:

Christchurch is supplied with water by the West Hampshire Water Company whose works lie wholly within the Borough boundary. The Company, in addition, supplies part of Bournemouth, most of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge, part of Wiltshire, part of the New Forest Rural District, and part of the Borough of Lymington. It derives its raw water from the river Avon within the Borough and treats it by slow sand filtration and chloramination.

During the year the raw water was examined twelve times with, in the main, low total counts. The Avon is a river which, unlike many used for public water supplies, is not subject to

gross pollution and the quality of the water is normally remarkably constant. *B. coli* was present in one-tenth ml. in ten of the samples and absent in one-tenth ml. in the remaining two. The treated water was examined chemically and bacteriologically on 30 occasions with entirely satisfactory results.

The supply is constant and the water is of moderate hardness, free from plumbo solvent action, and entirely free from metals.

The Water Company's records show 5,476 houses and shops to be supplied from their mains in Christchurch. No standpipes are in use.

A typical result of the examination of the water is given below:—

THE COUNTIES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received on 15th June, 1949, from WEST HAMPSHIRE WATER COMPANY.

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Appearance: Bright with very few mineral particles.

Turbidity (Silica Scale): Less than 5.

Colour: (Hazen): Faint Yellow-brown, 13. Odour: Nil.

Reaction pH: 7.6. Free Carbon Dioxide: 7.

Electric Conductivity at 20 deg.C.: 395.

Total Solids, dried at 180 deg.C.: 265.

Chlorine in Chlorides: 16. Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 190.

Hardness: Total, 215. Carbonate (Temporary): 190.

Non-Carbonate (Permanent): 25.

Nitrogen in Nitrates: 1.2. Nitrogen in Nitrites: Less than 0.01.

Free Ammonia: 0.048. Oxygen absorbed in 4hrs. at 27 deg.C.: 1.05.

Albuminoid Ammonia: 0.042. Residual Chlorine: Absent.

Metals: Iron, Less than 0.03. Other metals absent.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per cc. or ml. in:—

1 day at 37 deg.C.: 1.

2 days at 37 deg.C.: 2.

3 days at 20 deg.C.: 1.

Presumptive Coliform Reaction: Present in, Nil.

Absent from, 100 ml.

Bact. *Coli*: Present in, Nil. Absent from, 100ml.

Cl. *welchii* Reaction: Present in, Nil. Absent from, 100 ml.

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are very satisfactory.

These results are indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Signed--ROY C. HOATHER.
for THE COUNTIES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES.

In the early part of the year an investigation of water works employees was carried out with a view to eliminating the possibility of enteric fever carriers working in association with the water. 36 men were examined and 34 gave no suspicious reaction. In two cases it was thought wiser to ensure that the men concerned should not deal with treated water, though in neither case was an active carrier state present.

LABORATORY FACILITIES:

Our bacteriological work continues to be carried out by Dr. G. J. G. King at the Poole Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service, and it is fair to say that we take full advantage of the facilities provided. A steady stream of routine samples of milk, milk bottles and ice cream is examined throughout the year. In addition, Dr. King's advice is frequently sought, and always most willingly given, on divers problems of epidemiology. He is looked on naturally as a member of the Health Department team, it is a happy relationship and we are most grateful that it exists.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES:

The incessant work of inspection and education continues with unremitting zeal, and Mr. Friend gives precise details in his tables of the enormous amount of painstaking work involved and of the quantities of unfit food which have been prevented from reaching the consumer. It should be appreciated that considerable amounts of the food condemned have been brought to the notice of the department by the traders themselves.

FOOD POISONING:

No cases of food poisoning were reported during the year.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGNS:

In the latter part of the year the preliminary moves were made by Mr. Friend towards the formation of a Clean Food Guild among the local food traders. The initial response to the first tentative enquiries was good and augurs well for the success of the venture, of which there will be much more to say in the future.

MILK BOTTLES:

Samples of washed milk bottles have continued to be examined from time to time throughout the year and it is apparent that only by unceasing care can the small retailer maintain satis-

factory bacterial counts; it is equally apparent that in certain cases very frequent inspection and supervision by your sanitary inspectors is necessary to stimulate and sustain that care. The introduction of a legal standard for a washed milk bottle as suggested in my last report would enormously strengthen the hand of the Health Department in enforcing the very elementary necessity of providing a clean receptacle for such a readily contaminated food.

ICE CREAM:

Once again a great deal of attention has been directed throughout the year by your inspectors to the conditions under which ice cream is produced and sold in the Borough. The number of retailers has again increased and now stands at 81. It is interesting to speculate on the weight and volume of this material which must be consumed in a town of this size during the year and to consider that careless handling, either in production or in sale, may convert such a delectable substance into lethal material. The results of the Methylene Blue Test on the 136 samples collected show a further substantial and progressive improvement over previous years, and this would seem to show an increasing awareness on the part of both producers and retailers of the need for absolute cleanliness, engendered by the patient educative work of food inspectors both in this Borough and elsewhere. Whereas last year 51% of the samples fell into grades 3 and 4 and were therefore considered unsatisfactory, this year only 22% fell into the unsatisfactory grades, and nearly 50% of all the samples fell into grade 1.

HEALTH EDUCATION:

In the early part of March this Council collaborated with the Councils of Bournemouth and Poole and the Central Office of Information, in staging the "Health of the People" Exhibition which was held in the Town Hall, Bournemouth. The Exhibition was built up around a nucleus of the travelling section of the Public Health Centenary Exhibition, and there was a considerable amount of local material illustrating progress in the field of preventive medicine in this area. There were also trade exhibits and exhibits by the Ministry of Food and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Health films were shown by the Central Office of Information and there was a lecture on mental health and a "Brains Trust." The Exhibition had much that was of value to teach and undoubtedly those who visited it profited thereby, but it is fair to say that on the whole it was poorly attended.

CARAVANS:

There is no word which produces a greater feeling of dismay and frustration in the minds of the Health Committee than 'Caravan.' Never a meeting of the Committee goes by but there

are more applications to station moveable dwellings on various unlicensed sites throughout the Borough, or alternatively cases are brought forward where caravans have been found occupying unlicensed sites and it is necessary to prove occupation for the statutory period before action to secure evacuation of the site can be taken. The town already has nine licensed caravan sites, capable of housing some 446 caravans and chalets, and there is scope for the provision of further accommodation of this type. The problem is not only that of holiday caravans, but is also one of permanent or long stay caravaners who are forced by the shortage of houses to rent, or by the prohibitive price of houses for sale, to occupy this form of accommodation. It is a known fact that a small proportion of these people are former house owners who have taken advantage of the inflated prices to sell their houses and have acquired caravans with part of the proceeds. The Englishman is noted for his desire to cut himself off from his neighbours, nowhere else does one find people erecting high walls, close boarded fences or dense hedges around their homes, and therefore many caravaners seek individual sites and do not like to be herded together on licensed camps. This might not matter greatly if the numbers were few, but at the present rate of application one has the feeling that the town would shortly have more caravans than houses. It is obvious that a halt must be called somewhere, but in the present unsatisfactory state of the legislation it appears that the Committee has virtually no option but to grant the license providing there is no objection on public health grounds. It is, however, necessary also to have Planning permission before the caravan can be occupied permanently and it is therefore left to the Planning Authority to make the final decision. The situation is somewhat Gilbertian.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47:

One old lady was considered for action under this section during the year. She filled all the requirements except that it could not be reasonably certified that she was living in "insanitary conditions." A certain degree of untidiness and dirt was present but insufficient to warrant the description "insanitary."

By limiting the use of compulsory powers under this section to cases where insanitary conditions must be proved, the scope of the section of the Act is so narrowed that it does little to help deal with large numbers of old people who live alone and uncared for, and who, in many cases, are a danger to themselves and to others. They may fall and damage themselves or they may accidentally set themselves or their houses on fire; the constant fear is that one day they will be found dead. Such old people usually cling to their independence and cannot readily be persuaded to relinquish it, even though they have long ceased to be able to look after themselves satisfactorily. In a number of cases there is a certain amount of mental confusion, insufficient to

warrant their certification as of unsound mind, but sufficient to make them unreasonably suspicious of any attempt made by outsiders to help them, and particularly of any offer of institutional accommodation.

When sufficient old people's homes of the type so excellently run by the Christchurch Old People's Welfare Association are available, it may be possible to persuade more needy cases to seek the care which they so badly require. At present the stigma of the old Poor Law still hangs over institutional care for the aged, and many of the beds available for such people are still in what were formerly Poor Law Institutions.

SCHOOLS:

There has been no material change in the seven Council Schools within the Borough. Conditions of overcrowding and undesirably large classes continue, but slow progression is being made towards alleviating this situation. Three new class rooms were brought into use at Mudeford, the school which is for the present having to bear the brunt of the expansion in the Somerford area until new schools can be erected there. Steady progress is being made on the new Infant School in Clarendon Road and at least part of it will be ready for occupation soon. This will make available much needed additional class rooms for the Junior School. Hired accommodation is still in use in premises away from several of the schools, and school halls and dining rooms are in use as class rooms, to the detriment of other school activities.

School meals are provided at all schools but here again the numbers of pupils have outstripped the facilities provided so that, in most cases, two or more sessions have to be held during the dinner interval.

CHILD WELFARE:

The County Council is the responsible authority for Child Welfare. In this connexion it conducts two Child Welfare Clinics within the Borough, one at the Health Centre in Millhams Street, which is open all day every Tuesday, and the other in St. Mark's Hall, Highcliff, held on the afternoon of the third Friday in each month. The clinics are staffed by Assistant County Medical Officers and by the Health Visitors whose areas are served. Mothers attend on their own initiative and at the instigation of the Health Visitors to receive advice on infant feeding and general child management. Babies are weighed and a record of their progress is maintained. Often all that the young mother requires is reassurance that the baby is doing well and that she is going about things in the right fashion. Many a furrowed brow has been smoothed by a few simple words of encouragement. In addition, a considerable amount of immunisation against diphtheria is carried out at the clinics, and a stock of

baby foods and vitamin supplements is maintained for sale, or for free distribution in a very limited number of cases. No treatment is undertaken and any child found to require it is referred to his own general practitioner.

The local administration of the clinic is carried out by a voluntary Child Welfare Committee which is normally responsible for the ordering and sale of the Child Welfare Foods, and whose members maintain the records, organise the teas, and in fact do all the work except the strictly medical aspects. We owe a great debt of gratitude to this devoted band of workers whose ranks are becoming depleted with the passage of time. Once again I make a plea for additional volunteers to carry on this essential work, particularly at the Millhams Street Clinic.

NURSERIES:

There is now only one private residential nursery in the town and, as all the beds there are reserved for local authority cases or for children sent by the Invalid Children's Aid Society, in effect it is only "private" in that it is privately owned.

Two other residential nurseries are run by the Red Cross Society, a new one at Mudeford having been opened in September.

The County Council continues to maintain the Day Nursery in the Square House, where 38 under school age children of working mothers are cared for during working hours.

ILLEGITIMACY:

The illegitimacy rate was 58.8 per 1,000 live births as compared with 64.7 for 1948 and 58.5 for 1947. This is within normal limits and satisfactorily below the peak figure of 144 reached in 1945. Only one death occurred in illegitimate infants, and this too may be regarded with satisfaction since normally the illegitimate infant has a lesser chance of survival than his legitimate fellow.

SCABIES:

Cases of scabies in small numbers continue to be treated at the Health Centre in Millhams Street. Only 9 cases from Christchurch were dealt with throughout the year. 12 cases from neighbouring districts were treated under an existing arrangement.

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT:

The following figures, showing the state of employment and unemployment within the Christchurch Employment Exchange area which, in addition to the Borough of Christchurch, includes Hurn and Holmsley, have been kindly supplied by Mr. C. A. Mitchell, the Manager of Christchurch Employment Exchange.

1. The numbers of persons over 18 years of age registered as unemployed at the Christchurch Employment Exchange during 1949 were as follows:—

	Males.	Females.
January	186	63
February	161	54
March	159	37
April	139	35
May	117	33
June	96	23
July	92	25
August	103	25
September	114	38
October	122	61
November	154	80
December	139	85

2. The approximate numbers of insured persons in the Christchurch area at July, 1948 (excluding self-employed and non-employed), based on the number of Unemployment Books exchanged and National Insurance Cards issued by the Christchurch Employment Exchange are given below (these are the latest figures available):—

Industry	Males		Females		Total
	18 and over	Under 18	18 and over	Under 18	
Transport and Communication	1,445	57	180	8	1,690
Building	944	61	11	4	1,020
Vehicles (including Aircraft)	788	23	126	3	940
Catering, Hotels	152	6	313	18	489
Agriculture and Horticulture	379	18	31	4	432
Nat. Govt. Service...	251		53	1	305
Retail D'tribution of Food and Drink ...	146	14	107	27	294
Retail D'tribution of Non-Food Goods	76	9	74	20	179
Local Govt. Service	142	2	14	2	160
Other Industries ...	829	53	926	70	1,878
TOTALS	5,152	243	1,835	157	7,387

In addition to the above there were about 1,000 books and cards exchanged at other local offices of the Ministry of Labour and National Service for workers employed in the Christchurch area (about 850 in National Government Service and 150 in Local Government Service).

3. Approximate percentage of male and female workers over 18 years of age who were registered as unemployed.

1949.	Males.	Females.
March	2.7	1.8
June	1.6	1.1
September	1.9	1.8
December	2.4	4.1

GENERAL REMARKS:

The health of the Borough has been satisfactory throughout the year.

A considerable outbreak of measles occurred in the early part of the year without however causing any deaths attributed to this infection.

The complete absence of Food Poisoning throughout the year is a tribute to the energetic activities of the Sanitary Inspectors.

The population shows a slight decrease over the 1948 figure. This reverses the trend shown during the previous four years when the average increase was just over 1,000 per year. It may be that the labour market is approaching saturation and that further substantial increases will not occur unless new industries are introduced.

The Birth Rate shows a slight increase and is just above that for England and Wales.

The Infant Mortality Rate has shown a sharp increase over the previous year's record low figure and is a little above that for England and Wales as a whole. The figure is nearer our average for the years 1944 to 1947.

The Death Rate has increased and is the highest recorded since 1944. It is higher than the figure for England and Wales, but if the comparability factor is applied the figure is reduced to 10. (The comparability factor is supplied by the Registrar-General for the first time since the war for the purpose of securing comparability between local death rates).

The Housing problem is ever with us though Christchurch has distinguished itself with its building efforts, being the non-County Borough which has built the second largest number of permanent houses, relative to its population, in England and Wales since the war. 179 new Council houses and 45 private enterprise houses were completed during the year. In spite of this the waiting list for Council houses has still further increased and now stands at 1,100. The only encouraging factor is the failure of the population figure to show its customary annual rise. If the population in future increases but slowly there is at least some prospect of seeing the problem solved in our lifetime.

All that has been said in the past about the hutted sites at Holmsley still applies. There is no disagreement about the undesirability of this form of habitation and everyone is determined that it shall be vacated at the earliest possible moment. The only disagreement is over the relative priority which should be accorded to the hut dwellers, and there are many factors here which must and do receive their due consideration.

In conclusion, I wish again to thank the Mayor and Members of the Council for their consideration throughout the year, my fellow officials for their willing assistance, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector and his Staff for their unremitting vigilance and drive.

D. J. N. McNAB.

August, 1950.

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1949.

To The MAYOR, ALDERMEN and COUNCILLORS
of the BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you my ninth Annual Report covering the period 1st January to 31st December, 1949. All Tables dealing with income and expenditure cover the financial year April, 1949, to March, 1950.

It is not proposed to enter into a lengthy description of the work of the department during the year, and my remarks will be confined to bare essentials in support of the detail given in the various Tables forming part of this report.

There have been changes in the staff during the year, Mr. Jenkins, one of your Sanitary Inspectors, leaving in February to take up a similar appointment with the Lymington Borough Council. The vacancy thus created was filled by Mr. J. Stokes, of Deal, who commenced his duties in June.

According to the Registrar-General's figures, there has been a slight decrease in the population, the figure for the current year being 19,130 as against 19,190 for the previous year. I would remind members of the Council that these figures do not include the very large number of families temporarily housed at Holmsley, families for which this Council is responsible and for whom accommodation will have to be found within the boundaries of the Borough. For administrative purposes therefore, the population of your area is in excess of 20,000.

A great deal of attention has again been paid to housing; food premises; the preparation and sale of ice cream, and rodent control. Details of these and other inspections appear in Table I.

As will be seen from a study of Table I, there has been a slight decrease in the number of inspections as compared with the previous year. This decrease is due to the fact that the department was short of one Inspector for upwards of three months pending the replacement of Mr. Jenkins.

The report is again set out under various headings, and other than where essential, only a brief reference will be made to the various matters under discussion.

I would draw particular attention to the sections of the report dealing with Housing Allocation; Moveable Dwellings and Camping Sites, and Public Cleansing.

1. HOUSING—SLUM CLEARANCE:

The position remains unchanged. A small number of premises of the type suitable for inclusion in such a scheme does exist in your Borough, but housing difficulties preclude the taking of appropriate action at present. The premises are carefully watched and, with the co-operation of the owners, essential repairs are carried out as and when necessary.

2. HOUSING—RECONDITIONING :—

Although outside my province, I do feel constrained to touch upon the question of rent restriction in so far as it affects the work of the Public Health Department. Your officers are constantly approaching owners to carry out repairs to their properties and are invariably confronted with the question of costs. There is no doubt that rising costs have created a problem which can only be met by an increase in rents. Such increase, however, is not permitted at present, and although I believe the Minister of Health is giving this aspect of housing very serious consideration, the fact remains that many owners are just financially incapable of meeting the cost of works called for by the department. This adds considerably to our difficulties, and properties which could be rendered fit for human habitation are slowly but surely becoming prospective slums. The problem is one which is not peculiar to your Borough but is repeated throughout the length and breadth of the country and must, therefore, be tackled at National level.

Despite the difficulties referred to above, 74 premises have been dealt with during the year.

3. HOUSING—OVERCROWDING :—

In common with most local authorities throughout the country, the greatest problem is undoubtedly that of securing good housing conditions for the very many families at present living in overcrowded premises. The problem is one which your Council have tackled with vigour, as evidenced by the fact that Christchurch held first place in the housing drive and now lies second in the list of Boroughs. Much still remains to be done, but I am not convinced that the solution lies in the construction of an unlimited number of Council houses. One must bear in mind that apart from its few light industries, Christchurch is essentially a residential area, most of the properties constructed before the war being of a relatively high standard. Like most commodities in short supply, housing is at present in great demand. What will be the position when private building is again permitted? Is the Council going to find itself with a surplus of houses for which they can find no tenants? This is a question to which we would all very much like to know the answer.

I feel convinced that a very large number of persons already rehoused by your Council would, if given the opportunity, much prefer to build their own homes on a site of their own choosing.

Is it therefore not time that this matter was thoroughly investigated with a view to reducing the number of Council houses being built and an approach made to the Minister for an increase in the number of private building licences? Such an investigation would give the Council a clear picture of housing requirements and would no doubt strengthen their hand in any approach they may make to the Ministry.

In view of the heavy subsidies on Council houses, this is a matter of vital importance not only to local ratepayers but to the taxpayers throughout the country, and is one which should receive careful consideration now.

450 houses have been inspected, and 1,197 rooms measured during the year to ascertain the permitted numbers. Necessary records have been prepared.

4. HOUSING—ALLOCATION:

I have continued to interview prospective Council tenants and have submitted reports to the appropriate Committee. These interviews take up a great deal of time and involve considerable travelling. Such interviews are, however, essential if the Committee is to be in possession of the full facts regarding the persons concerned. Unfortunately, there are still many living under difficult conditions who, because of their inability to pay the comparatively high rents demanded, feel compelled to refuse the accommodation offered. Here again, your Council is faced with a problem which admits of no easy solution. It may well be that a special approach will have to be made to the Ministry in due course. In the meantime these families must continue living under undesirable conditions.

Great strides have again been made, 222 families being rehoused during the year. Of this number:—

80 were housed at Holmsley.

21 were housed in requisitioned properties.

121 were housed in new properties.

283 families, with a total of 1,273 persons, are temporarily housed in the former R.A.F. Camp at Holmsley.

There are 729 applicants on the waiting list, the families being made up as follows:—

No. in Family.	No. of Applicants.
9	2
8	4
7	13
6	18
5	47
4	128
3	232
2	267
1	18
	<hr/>
	729
	<hr/>

The above table does not include the 283 families at Holmsley. The Council has continued to rehouse families from Holmsley on a proportional basis, 35 having been given permanent accommodation during the year.

5. FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES:--

Supervision of the preparation, storage and distribution of food is one of the more important of your Inspectors' many duties, and it is one to which a great deal of attention has been given as evidenced by the fact that upwards of 1,700 visits have been made to food premises during the year.

In my previous report, I stated that a survey of all food premises had been made to ascertain to what degree these fell short of the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, and that it had been found that of 198 food shops, 108 had the necessary facilities in the form of constant hot and cold water and fitted lavatory basins. It was further stated that steps were being taken to reduce the number which did not conform. At the request of the department and with the willing co-operation of the traders concerned, the number of premises without constant hot and cold water and lavatory basins has now been reduced from 90 to 39. Of the 39 outstanding, 11 have undertaken to provide these facilities in the very near future, and it is hoped that by the end of the year, all food premises in your area will in fact conform to the high standard set in your Borough, a standard far in excess of that demanded by Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Particular attention has been paid to cafes and restaurants, and in every case it has been found that the owners have done everything in their power to render their premises attractive and have set themselves a high standard of cleanliness.

All in all, the town has every right to be proud of its food premises, and I am satisfied that it is second to none where food hygiene is concerned.

Sampling is still in the hands of the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority, and reproduced below is a report received from Mr. Perry on the result of samples taken during the year ended 31st March, 1950.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following is a list of samples taken in your district under the above Act during the year ended 31st March, 1950. All the samples were satisfactory.

Sample.	No. taken.
Butter and other Fats	5
Drugs	1
Milk	42
Sausages and other Meat Products	4
Spirits	2
Other Foods	11
	—
Total	65
	—

The 42 Milk Samples contained an average of 3.64% of Milk Fat, and 8.96% of Non-Fatty Solids.

(Signed) C. O. PERRY,

Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures.

Table 2 shows the articles of food surrendered as being unfit for human consumption.

6. CLEAN FOOD GUILD:—

In view of what has been said under the heading of “ Food and Food Premises,” it may very well be thought that everything which can be done has in fact been done, and that no further improvements in the handling of food are possible. Much as one would like to feel that this was so, human nature being what it is, there is always room for advancement, and the object of Clean Food Guilds is to set a standard above that demanded by the Food and Drugs Act in which many of the requirements are somewhat ambiguously stated with the result that local authorities have found themselves faced with the problem of deciding such matters as, What is “ a suitable and sufficient supply of hot and cold water?” What is “ within reasonable distance?” What are “ suitable washing basins?” and several other none too clear points in the Act.

In many cases local authorities have resorted to the Courts for an interpretation of these terms and they have not infrequently come off second best. In view of these difficulties and the uncertainty of Court Proceedings, a small number of local authorities—approximately 30—have decided to raise the standard of food production and distribution on a co-operative rather than a compulsory basis and have gone ahead through the medium of Clean Food Guilds.

Anxious that your town should not lag behind other areas, I suggested the formation of what is now known as “The Christchurch Clean Food Guild.” Codes of Practice setting a high standard of cleanliness for both premises and personnel were prepared, and with minor amendments, were approved by the Public Health Committee.

A meeting of the traders was arranged to discuss the project, and with one exception, all present voted in favour. A Joint Committee of members of the Council and trades representatives was set up. Application Forms and copies of the Codes of Practice were circulated to all traders, and of 176 such forms sent out, 159 were returned duly completed, all expressing a wish to become members of the Guild. These results were indeed encouraging. Being thus assured of the support of most of the traders, further meetings of the Joint Committee were held at which the form the Certificate of Membership was to take was agreed, and it was decided to go ahead with the inspection of premises. This work has been carried out by the District Inspectors who have

shown themselves deeply interested in the project, and have done everything in their power to assist the traders in bringing their premises and methods to the high standards set by the Codes. This work has been going on for several months, and at the time of preparing this report, 97 applicants have been recommended for membership; 4 more are to be granted the Certificate as soon as very minor details at their premises have received attention. The remaining 58 are pressing on with works of redecoration and repairs, and it is hoped that by the end of the year all who applied for membership will have been granted the Certificate.

The effort has, in my opinion, been well worth-while, and I feel the Council have every right to be proud of the high standard of cleanliness of the food premises in their area, a standard which the traders and your Inspectors will, I am sure, strive to maintain. The credit for the success of the scheme must, however, go to the traders who have given me their whole-hearted support.

I would be remiss if I failed to acknowledge the very hard work and the long hours put in—often after office hours—by Mr. Gunnell, Chief Clerk in the Public Health Department, and by Miss McDermid, without whose assistance the scheme could not have been launched.

7. SLAUGHTERHOUSES:

There has been no change with regard to these premises, slaughtering being under the control of the Ministry of Food and now centred in Poole. A cottager's pig is occasionally dealt with in one or other of the 3 slaughterhouses in your area, but such cases are few and far between.

8. DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS:—

The Council continued to supervise the production and distribution of milk in their area until the coming into operation of the new Milk Regulations on the 1st of October, 1949. With effect from that date, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries became responsible for the registration and supervision of dairy farms and dairy farmers, licensing of the distributive side being left to the local authorities.

As will be seen by reference to Table 1, a good deal of attention was given to the production and distribution of milk prior to the change-over referred to above, no less than 320 visits having been made to these premises.

On the whole, a fairly high standard of cleanliness has been maintained, and it has not been found necessary to take action against any of the dairymen in the area.

Attention has again been focused on the cleanliness of milk bottles, 288 having been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. The counts per pint bottle varied from 35,000 to 0, the average being 799. Dissatisfied with these results, and aware that no legal standard exists, the Council approached

the Minister of Health with a view to having this unsatisfactory state of affairs rectified, but were informed that nothing could be done at present. In the meantime, the matter is being followed up locally and every endeavour is being made to ensure that only clean containers are used.

9. ICE CREAM:—

There has been a further increase in the number of premises dealing in this commodity, and whereas 70 were registered in 1948, the number now is 81.

There is still only one manufacturer in your area, and the premises and equipment conform with the requirements of the Ice Cream Regulations. All other ice cream sold in the area is manufactured by firms specialising in this commodity; the main sources of supply being the Bournemouth Ice Cream Co.; Walls; Lyons; Hunts; Penguin and Deli Cream.

Your Inspectors have given these premises a good deal of attention during the year, no less than 519 visits having been made. In the course of these inspections, particular attention has been given to the methods of storage and distribution, including the cleanliness of personnel and equipment. That these inspections and the advice given are productive of good results is confirmed by the fact that there has been a very great improvement in the standard of cleanliness of this material as revealed by the Methylene Blue Test.

Of 72 samples submitted to the laboratory in 1948:—

- 19.4% were placed in Grade 1.
- 29.2% were placed in Grade 2.
- 32.0% were placed in Grade 3.
- 19.4% were placed in Grade 4.

Of 136 samples tested in 1949:—

- 48.51% were placed in Grade 1.
- 29.42% were placed in Grade 2.
- 15.45% were placed in Grade 3.
- 6.62% were placed in Grade 4.

A decided improvement has also been noticed in the vehicles of itinerant vendors, and in two cases the vehicles concerned are provided with hot and cold water, wash basins, soap and towels. This is a step in the right direction and one which I hope will be extended. Samples taken from these vendors satisfied the Methylene Blue Test.

It is still hoped that the Ministry of Health will make the registration of this type of trader compulsory, and thus facilitate the task of local authorities.

10. DRAINAGE:—

The department has continued to be responsible for the drainage of all new buildings other than those being constructed for the Council, and in this connection 53 premises have been partly or wholly redrained; 10 cesspools and 5 pail closets have been abolished; and 298 tests have been applied. In addition, the

drains of 70 new properties have been laid under the supervision of the department.

Reference to my report for 1948 will reveal that at that time there were:—

27 properties draining to Septic Tanks.

83 draining to Cesspools.

91 had Bucket Latrines.

3 were provided with Elsans.

In 1947, the Council were informed that there were:—

33 properties which could be connected to existing sewers.

17 which could be connected if sewers were available.

154 which were too remote or scattered to warrant provision of sewers at this stage.

The numbers at the end of 1949 were:—

29 properties draing to Septic Tanks

73 draining to Cesspools.

86 with Bucket Latrines.

3 with Elsans.

The number not drained to the sewer has therefore been reduced from 204 in 1948 to 191 in 1949. It is hoped further to reduce this number during the current year.

11. MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES:—

Caravanning is on the increase and your Borough has had more than its fair share of the problems created by the use of this type of structure for holiday and housing purposes. The problem has reached such proportions that it has been found quite impossible to keep a check on the numbers moving in and out almost daily. In fairness to those who from choice or sheer necessity occupy these dwellings, it must be said that they have endeavoured to conform with the requirements of the Public Health Act and the Byelaws. It is nevertheless a fact that caravans are appearing in ones and twos in almost all parts of the Borough, and subject to no nuisance being committed, the occupiers are permitted to remain for 42 consecutive or 60 days aggregate in any one year without having to obtain a licence. Efforts were made to check on the period of occupation, but the number of caravans involved rendered the task impossible and the check had to be discontinued.

There are 9 licensed sites in the Borough, and in accordance with the terms of the licenses issued, these are permitted to accommodate 322 moveable dwellings and 124 chalets. The permitted number is a mere fraction of those who wish to spend this type of holiday in your town as evidenced by the fact that excluding those who camped on the land adjoining the Car Park at Higheliffe, there were no less than 651 caravans or tents on 6 of the 9 sites checked during the August Bank Holiday. This number is made up as follows:—

	Permitted.	Actual.
Hoburne Farm	120	218
Bure Farm	Unlicensed Field	50
Cobb's Camp	40	147
McArdle's Camp	60	64
Beaulieu Gardens Camp	40	117
O.K. Filling Station	20	49

I think the Council will agree that this is conclusive proof that the number of sites in your area is insufficient to meet the demands of the very large number of visitors to whom this form of holiday appeals and who, due to the withdrawal of Petrol Rationing, can now go farther afield. It is reasonable to assume that these numbers will increase each year, and to avoid the congested conditions existing on the sites listed above and give the visitors to your area more congenial surroundings, I suggest that there is a need for more camping sites, and I would again urge the Council to reconsider the setting up of a Municipal Caravan Site. It is only by this means or by the licensing of more private sites that an end can be put to the chaotic conditions which at present obtain, conditions which are a blot on an otherwise well-regulated town.

There is little or no point in attaching conditions to a licence if no action is taken to ensure that the terms of the licence are complied with. Section 269(7) of the Public Health Act, 1936, provides penalties for persons who contravene any of the provisions of the section or who fail to comply with any conditions attached to a licence granted to them, and I suggest that greater use should be made of these powers to put an end to the conditions described above.

Because of the restrictions on building, many families continue to occupy caravans all the year round. A number of these are accommodated in the grounds of Sandhills, and there is a long list of applicants waiting for a site to become available. Whilst on the subject of Sandhills, I may say that the department has refused applications from scores of holiday-makers who were anxious to station their caravans on this site.

12. PUBLIC CLEANSING :—

(a) Refuse Collection :

I need hardly stress the fact that this is one of the most important services operated by the Council, and it is one which requires constant supervision if it is to run smoothly and be operated economically. I think I can claim that both these requirements are fulfilled in your Borough as evidenced by the fact that of some 340,000 bins dealt with during the year, only 30 were overlooked by the refuse collectors. These were dealt with as soon as the matter was brought to the notice of the department.

Though not in possession of recent figures for other towns, I think I can claim that my costs are probably among the lowest in the country. This claim is based on a study of the figures quoted in the Public Cleansing Costing Returns for the year 1938, published by the Ministry of Health in 1939. The publication of this return was discontinued during the war and has not yet been resumed.

For purposes of comparison, the Council may be interested in the following figures culled from the Costing Returns. The towns listed below dispose of refuse by Controlled Tipping, and the figures quoted are for 1938.

Area.	Net expenditure	Net expenditure
	Per 1,000	Per 1,000
	houses	population
	Per annum.	Per annum.
	£	£
Scarborough	714	253
Weston-super-Mare ...	655	186
Colwyn Bay	684	224
Bexhill	681	192
Deal	660	172
Llanelly	647	155
Hastings	555	181
Harrogate	589	185

The Christchurch figures for 1949 are:—

£	£
653	216

These are figures of which I am naturally proud, and they have been achieved, not as the result of operating a niggardly scheme, but by constant attention to details and good service on the part of your Collectors.

A weekly collection has been maintained throughout the year; additional collections, varying from 2 to 4 per week, being made from trade premises, camps and beaches.

The collection of refuse from the camp at Holmsley, where upwards of 1,000 persons are temporarily housed, has continued, the cost of this service being borne by the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District Council.

At the end of the year, the Council's refuse collecting vehicles consisted of 1 Morris, 2 Bedfords and the Lewin. As the transport was stretched to capacity, and no spare vehicle was available in the event of a breakdown, the Public Health Committee was asked to consider the purchase of another. This they agreed to do, and after considering a report on the various types available, placed an order with Messrs. Shelvoke and Drewry for one of their side-loading freighters with double cab. I took delivery of this vehicle in June, 1950, and its arrival has eased the strain on overworked transport.

(b) Refuse Disposal:

The following remarks are culled from my 1947 report: "To those not intimately acquainted with the subject, the disposal of refuse by Controlled Tipping is a matter which is apt to conjure up a picture of large masses of smelly refuse disfiguring the countryside."

Little did I think when writing that report that within two years your Council's tip would in fact be presenting such a picture. I have done everything in my power to dispose of refuse in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health. I succeeded for a time, but due to the rapid growth of the town and the lack of equipment and materials, my efforts are proving abortive.

If members of the Council will refer to the 1948 report, they will see that under the heading of refuse disposal on page 25, I made the following remarks: "The only equipment at my disposal at the tip face is one small wheelbarrow in which the tip-head men are expected to transport sufficient soil to keep the tip covered. This is of course impossible, and the time has arrived when adequate facilities must be provided if the work is to be properly done."

These difficulties have been aggravated by the fact that little or no covering material of any sort is available, with the result that tipping has reverted to the crude state. These conditions cannot be permitted to continue, and I would again urge the Council to authorise me to procure the necessary equipment and covering material. **This is a matter of urgency and one to which I hope the Council will give priority.**

Subject to a good and regular service low costs on the collection side of the Cleansing Service are something of which a Cleansing Officer has every right to be proud. The same principle should of course apply to the disposal side. Frequently, however, such low costs may be brought about by an unsatisfactory system of disposal, and I'm afraid that the very low costs in your area are, as pointed out above, due to this.

I can assure the Council that as a Sanitarian, I would much prefer to throw up higher costs and have the satisfaction of knowing that the work was being thoroughly done. As it is, I am disgusted with the conditions on the tip, and I can do nothing to remedy this without the necessary equipment and materials.

In order that the Council may judge of the very low cost of their disposal scheme, the following figures, all relating to disposal by Controlled Tipping, have been culled from the Public Cleansing Costing Returns for 1938.

Area.	Net expenditure Per 1,000 houses Per annum.	Net expenditure Per 1,000 population Per annum.
	£	£
Scarborough	185	66
Weston-Super-Mare ...	150	43
Colwyn Bay	158	51
Bexhill	256	72
Deal	160	42
Llanelly	93	23
Hastings	204	67
Harrogate	164	52

The Christchurch figures for 1949 are :—

£	£
101	33

These figures are much too low to admit of an efficient service being maintained and a larger sum should be allowed in future estimates.

13. SALVAGE:—

There has been quite a drop in the quantity of material collected and a corresponding drop in revenue. The decrease in quantity was in part due to the fact that the Board of Trade saw fit to cancel the Direction making it obligatory on local authorities to collect paper, with the result that the public lost the enthusiasm which was created during the difficult years, and considerable quantities of paper were placed in the refuse bins. There was also a considerable decline in prices, and for a time it was just impossible to find a market. Hundreds of local authorities discontinued collections with the result that within a very short space of time the mills once more faced a crisis. Those local authorities who had maintained their organisation were once more able to dispose of their stocks on a rising market. Fortunately, the scheme was kept alive in your town, and I am finding a ready market for all paper collected.

Table 9 shows the transactions for the financial year 1949/50, the sum of £1,149:13:11 having been realised.

14. KITCHEN WASTE:—

The collection of this material in an area where there are so many pig and poultry-keepers who collect kitchen scraps has always been of doubtful value to the community, and although the scheme just about held its own in 1947 and 1948, there is a slight loss for the year 1949. If, however, one takes into account the value of the new containers, the scheme has again just about paid for itself.

An approach was made to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to enquire whether the Council could be given permission to discontinue this service. I was informed that until the Direction served on local authorities has been withdrawn, Councils must continue to collect.

With the approval of the Council, 136 Kitchen Waste Buckets were purchased and issued to tenants on the new Council estates. I am satisfied that the trial was worth-while, and that without these containers there would have been a much greater drop in quantity.

A total of 186 tons of kitchen waste and concentrate were dealt with during the year.

Tables 12, 13 and 14 set out the transactions for the financial year 1949/50.

15. RODENT CONTROL:—

This side of the department's duties continues to be operated by Mr. Smith, your Rodent Officer, who has proved himself very keen and capable. As will be seen from a study of Table 16, the estimated total kill is 943. This is quite an appreciable increase on the previous year and is an indication of what would happen if this service was discontinued.

The Council was asked to review its charges because of rising costs but elected to leave them at their present level of 2/6 for private and 10/6 for business premises.

There has been very little change in the cost of the service, the figure for 1949 being £167 as against £163 in 1948.

16. DISINFECTING STATION:—

No great use has been made of the disinfecting apparatus during the year, 385 articles, mainly mattresses, blankets and pillows, being treated.

The bedding used in the Council's beach huts continues to be treated periodically.

17. COMPLAINTS:—

548 complaints were dealt with during the year. Table 5 shows the nature of these complaints.

18. VERMINOUS PREMISES:—

Only 3 complaints of vermin were received during the year. In two cases the complaint referred to fleas, and in the third, bugs were the source of the trouble. These premises were sprayed with Zaldecide D.D.T., further inspections revealed that this treatment had in fact been effective.

The practice of spraying all new Council houses as a precautionary measure prior to occupation has also been continued.

19. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL COSTS:—

Tables 10 and 11 show in detail the cost of collection and disposal of refuse and lorry operating costs.

20. CONCLUSION:—

I wish to tender my thanks to His Worship The Mayor (Alderman E. J. Slinn); the Chairman of the Public Health Committee (Councillor S. Kermode); and to Dr. D. J. N. McNab, Medical Officer of Health, for their support during the year.

I also wish to express thanks to the Town Clerk (Mr. W. D. Platt) and to the staff of my department, both indoor and outdoor, for their loyal co-operation.

Your obedient Servant,

Town Hall,
Christchurch.
August, 1950.

FRANCIS LE V. FRIEND.
Chief Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

TABLE I.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Control of Civil Building Visits	62
Revisits	13
Housing Visits	179
Revisits	414
Housing—Allocation	255
Housing—Overcrowding	569
Drainage Visits	362
Re-inspections	474
Nuisances	228
Re-inspections	530
Unsound Food	135
Revisits	22
Food Premises	674
Revisits	391
Ice Cream	519
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	144
Revisits	51
Bottle-washing Samples	125
Infectious Diseases	21
Revisits	3
Verminous Premises	23
Factories	202
Revisits	48
Outworkers	28
Factory and School Canteens	26
Public Conveniences	44
Vans, Tents, etc.	120
Revisits	703
Camping Sites	81
Shops (Shops Act)	290
Refuse Collection and Disposal	755
Salvage	192
Rodent Control	455
Revisits	1,746
Closet Accommodation	43
Water Supply	6
Miscellaneous	157

10,090

TABLE 2.

ARTICLES OF FOOD CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR.

Grape Fruit (Damaged & Blown)	8 tins.
Pears (Damaged & Blown)	2 tins.
Veal Loaf (Blown)	9 tins.
Herrings (Decomposed)	17½ stone.
Carrots (Blown)	85 tins.
Tomatoes (Blown)	12 tins.
Meat Soup (Blown)	1 tin.
Veal and Ham Paste (Mouldy)	1 pot.
Crawfish (Decomposed)	1 tin.
Guinea Fowl (Decomposed)	19 lbs.
Palm Toffee (Contaminated with Tin Foil)	4½ lbs.
Plum Jam (Contaminated with Broken Glass)	3 lbs.
Marmalade (Contaminated with Broken Glass)	6 lbs.
Dripping (Contaminated with Broken Glass)	3 lbs.
Runner Beans (Damaged and Blown)	3 tins.
Dried Egg (Damaged Tin)	1 tin.
Peas (Blown)	40 tins.
Minced Beef Loaf (Decomposed)	2 tins.
Brawn (Decomposed and Blown)	14 tins.
Grapes (Blown)	24 tins.
Orange Juice (Blown)	5 tins.
Branston Sauce (Broken Container)	1 bottle.
Piecalilli (Broken Container)	1 jar.
Mushroom Soup (Severely dented)	1 tin.
Bacon (Decomposed)	19 lbs.
Dried Haddock (Decomposed)	5 stone.
Beetroot (Blown)	1 tin.
Plaice (Decomposed)	3 stone.
Headless Cod (Decomposed)	5 stone.
Horscradish Cream (Sour)	26 jars.
Grapefruit Marmalade (Damaged and Blown)	1 tin.
Spinach Puree (Damaged and Blown)	1 tin.
Lemon Curd (Mouldy)	1 tin.
Apricot Jam (Blown)	4 tins.
Plums (Blown)	7 tins.
Pickle (Sour)	2 jars.
Cheeses (Mouldy and over ripe)	60 boxes.
Strawberry Jam (Blown and Damaged)	2 tins.
Pilchards (Blown)	16 tins.
Ham Loaf (Blown)	1 tin.

TABLE 2 (Continued).

Sardines (Blown)	81 tins.
Mincemeat (Contaminated with Glass)	1 jar.
Baked Beans (Blown)	13 tins.
Syrup (Blown)	1 tin.
Plaice Fillet (Decomposed)	20 lbs.
Beans in Tomato Sauce (Blown and Damaged)	10 tins.
Herrings (Blown)	3 tins.
Crabs (Dead when received)	8 stone.
Tomato Soup (Blown)	3 tins.
Vegetable and Tomato Soup (Blown)	1 tin.
Cods Roe (Decomposed)	1 tin.
Veal and Ham Loaf (Blown)	1 tin.
Cranberry and Apple Pudding (Blown)	1 tin.
Lemon Soles (Slimy & Discoloured)	5 stone.
Cheese (Crumpled and Contaminated)	42½ lbs.
Pork Sausages (Decomposed)	9 lbs.
Pork Sausage Meat (Decomposed)	3 lbs.
Peaches (Blown)	9 tins.
Salmon (Blown)	9 tins.
Sild (Blown)	1 tin.
Jellied Beef (Blown)	1 tin.
Crab Paste (Mouldy)	2 jars.
Sausages (Container punctured)	1 tin.
Meat Lunch (Decomposed)	13 tins.
Danish Pork (Blown)	4 tins.
Macedoine of Vegetables (Blown)	27 tins.
Minced Beef with Cereals (Blown)	1 tin.
Lambs' Tongues (Blown)	2 tins.
Rhubarb (Blown)	2 tins.
Bramble Jam (Blown)	1 tin.
Apple Jelly (Blown)	2 tins.
Veal and Ham Paste (Damaged Container)	1 jar.
Cream Crackers (Damaged in Transit and Contaminated by straw)	9 lbs.
Beef Broth (Blown)	1 tin.
Apricots (Blown)	1 tin.
Processed Peas (Blown)	12 tins.
Beef (Bone Taint and Decomposed)	1860 lbs.
Mutton (Bone Taint and Decomposed)	96 lbs.
Ox Liver (Abscess)	16 lbs.
Kidney (Nephritis and Necrosis)	2½ lbs.
Corned Beef (Blown and Decomposed)	40 tins.
Corned Mutton (Blown and Decomposed)	10 tins.

TABLE 3.
MILK SUPPLY.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

The following is a Summary of the particulars as recorded in the Registers at the 31st December, 1949.

No. of persons registered as Cowkeepers	11
No. of premises registered as Cowsheds	11
No. of cowkeepers who are also retailers of milk	3
No. of persons registered as Distributors of milk	20
No. of persons resident outside the district retailing milk in the area	6

TABLE 4.
RECORD OF NUISANCES ABATED AND WORK DONE.

The following statement shows in detail work carried out under the supervision of the Department:—

(a) DRAINAGE:

No. of New Premises Drained	70
No. of Houses and premises redrained	20
Repairs or amendments to existing drains	33
Drains or gullies unstopped and cleansed	53
Length in yards of stoneware drains laid	3481½
Length in yards of cast iron drains laid	6
Manholes provided	194
New manhole covers	187
Intercepting Traps fixed	75
New gully traps fixed	183
Soil pipes and vent shafts fixed	43
Soil pipes and vent shafts repaired	4
Water tests applied	238
Smoke tests applied	50
Colour tests applied	10
Cesspools emptied	9
Cesspools abolished	10
Septic Tanks constructed	2

TABLE 4 (Continued)

(b) SANITARY CONVENIENCES AND FITTINGS:

New W.C. Accommodation provided	25
New W.C. Apartments provided	28
New W.C. Pedestals provided	44
W.C's cleansed and repaired	22
New flushing cisterns provided	33
Flushing cisterns repaired	11
Baths provided	26
Sinks provided	26
Lavatory basins provided	44
New Waste Pipes trapped	89
Existing Waste Pipes trapped	2
Pail Closets and/or middens abolished	5

(c) MISCELLANEOUS:

Houses provided with through ventilation	—
New roofs provided	1
Roofs repaired	49
Eaves gutters renewed or repaired	18
Stack pipes provided	—
Stack pipes disconnected or repaired	7
Damp walls remedied	70
Ventilation under floors provided	—
Yards paved	1
Yards repaired	4
Floors of rooms relaid	4
Floors of rooms repaired	27
New windows provided	11
Windows repaired and/or made to open	87
Rooms cleansed and redecorated	83
Doors repaired or renewed	18
Ventilated food stores provided	—
Staircases provided or repaired	4
Dustbins provided	151
Nuisanees—Overcrowding, abated	—
„ Smoke	3
„ Animals	13
„ Accumulation of manure	6
„ Accumulation of refuse	7
Workrooms cleansed and repaired	12
Cowsheds and dairies cleansed	2
Grates, ranges, coppers, renewed or repaired	19
Rooms disinfested	51
Premises disinfested	17
Insufficient water supply	1
Bakchouses cleansed	5
Fish Fryers' premises cleansed	3

TABLE 5.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.

During the year 548 Complaints were received as detailed below :—

Nature of Complaint.	No. Received.
Choked drains	46
Defective roofs	19
Dilapidations	22
Defective Water Supply	5
Dampness	12
Overflowing Cesspits	1
Defective Lavatory Basins	3
Absence of Water Closets	—
Defective Water Closets	10
Defective Baths	2
Defective Sinks	6
Defective Flushing Cisterns	4
Absence of Dustbins	129
Animals	10
Smells	35
Non-removal of refuse	30
Accumulation of refuse	7
Dirty Conditions	12
Verminous Premises	4
Overcrowding	4
Defective Flues	1
General Living Conditions	4
Food	73
Rats	66
Non-collection of Salvage	2
Defective Fireplaces	6
Smoke	3
Dirty Condition of Milk	5
Insects	12
Miscellaneous	15

548

NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED.

Table 6 shows the action taken to secure the abatement of nuisances and the removal of conditions prejudicial to health.

TABLE 6.

Number of Notices Served.

Notices	Out-standing 31/12/48	Number served	C'plied with	Work done by L.A. in default	Out-standing 31/12/49
Informal ...	62	148	166	—	44
Statutory ...	14	18	24	—	8
Total ...	76	166	190	—	52

Summary of Statutory Notices Served:

Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936	3
Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936	15

HOUSING STATISTICS.

TABLE 7.

HOUSING ACT, 1936,—OVERCROWDING.

(a) 1.	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	452
2.	Number of families dwelling therein	724
3.	Number of persons dwelling therein	2,227
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	383
(c) 1.	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	222
2.	Number of persons concerned in such cases	748
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ...	—

TABLE 8.
RECORD OF PETROL AND OIL CONSUMED
BY REFUSE LORRIES
DURING THE PERIODS 1948/49 AND 1949/50.

	PETROL. (Gallons).					Monthly Totals.	OIL. (Pints).					Monthly Totals.
	LORRY.						LORRY.					
1948/49. Month.	1	2	3	4	Van		1	2	3	4	Van	
Apr.	94	83	193	37	—	407	2	2	6	2	—	12
May	91	62	129	36	—	318	2	2	6	—	—	10
June	98	64	158	19	—	339	4	—	26	2	—	32
July	107	78	137	11	—	333	2	2	6	—	—	10
Aug.	100	76	133	6	—	315	10	14	6	—	—	30
Sept.	99	82	150	15	—	346	—	4	26	2	—	32
Oct.	110	71	155	23	—	359	4	4	4	—	—	12
Nov.	103	85	162	22	—	372	2	9	8	—	—	19
Dec.	118	71	180	19	—	388	2	6	6	—	—	14
Jan.	117	67	82	73	—	339	2	7	22	5	—	36
Feb.	112	69	176	38	—	395	—	8	6	—	—	14
Mar.	126	71	123	57	—	382	2	4	4	2	—	12
Total	1275	879	1783	356	—	4293	32	62	126	13	—	233
1949/50.												
Apr.	123	70	128	20	—	341	6	7	8	3	—	24
May	131	56	158	20	—	365	12	16	38	2	—	68
June	72	55	86	92	—	305	4	6	4	8	—	22
July	101	29	145	66	—	341	6	4	4	2	—	16
Aug.	91	77	168	—	—	336	6	12	6	—	—	24
Sept.	88	84	177	23	—	372	6	18	8	—	—	32
Oct.	97	66	132	5	—	300	16	6	36	—	—	58
Nov.	13	88	143	50	—	294	—	8	3	8	—	19
Dec.	13	70	154	66	3	306	—	10	6	2	—	18
Jan.	89	84	165	31	—	369	10	8	6	2	—	26
Feb.	82	72	136	18	2½	310½	10	6	12	—	—	28
Mar.	91	100	155	30	3	379	6	13	36	12	—	67
Total	991	851	1747	421	8½	4018½	82	114	167	39	—	402

TABLE 9.

RECORD OF SALVAGE TRANSACTIONS DURING THE PERIOD

1st APRIL, 1949, TO 31st MARCH, 1950.

Month.	Paper.			Metals.			Bones.			Textiles.			Bottles & Jars	Value.
	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.		
April	11	13	3	5	0	14	3	0	0	3	3	26	Doz.	£ s. d. 117 13 0
May	15	6	3	15	2	18	2	0	0	3	0	23	227	148 4 6
June	19	12	3	26	0	18	1	0	0	3	3	26	—	190 8 7
July	5	0	2	1	1	10	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	28 2 7
August	8	13	0	13	—	—	—	—	0	0	1	24	—	83 5 9
September	18	3	1	21	0	10	0	0	—	—	—	—	26	73 6 9
October	13	9	0	15	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	27	—	83 12 8
November	9	14	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41 6 4
December	14	9	3	10	0	7	2	26	0	0	3	20	154	98 10 11
January	13	0	2	14	—	—	—	—	0	0	2	10	—	63 8 8
February	13	12	0	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	48 11 5
March	15	13	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	67 10 3
TOTALS	158	10	0	2	6	19	1	26	0	14	0	16	407	1044 1 5
Bonus from Board of Trade vide Circular 127 & 138 ...														
GRAND TOTALS ...£													105 12 6	1149 13 11

TABLE 10.
PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE.
DETAILS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE,
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1950.

No.	Item.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	REFUSE COLLECTION:		
1.	Wages of Foreman	178 8 1	
2.	Wages of Drivers	767 7 3	
3.	Wages of Loaders	2,504 16 1	
4.	Wages of Salvage Packers ...	558 17 5	
5.	Transport Charges	1,633 13 10	
			5,643 2 8
	REFUSE DISPOSAL:		
6.	Wages	509 1 5	
7.	Tools & Implements, etc. ...	126 4 8	
			635 6 1
	Gross Expenditure—Collection & Disposal...		6,278 8 9
	Less Gross Income—Collection & Disposal...		1,514 18 3
	Net Expenditure—Collection & Disposal ...		£4,763 10 6

COLLECTION.

Estimated Population (June, 1949)—19,130.
Number of Houses & Shop Premises—6,322.
Net cost per 1,000 Premises—£652:19:10.
Net cost per 1,000 Population—£215:16:0.

DISPOSAL.

Net cost per 1,000 Premises—£100:9:10.
Net cost per 1,000 Population—£33:4:2.

TABLE 11.
SUMMARY OF OPERATING COSTS OF CORPORATION'S REFUSE AND SALVAGE LORRIES
1st APRIL, 1949 TO 31st MARCH, 1950.

Lorry No.	Driver's Wages.	Petrol & Oil.	Insurance & Tax.	Repairs.	Depreciation.	Cleaning & Greasing.	Workmen's Clothing.	Total Cost	No. Working days.	Total Mileage.	Total Petrol Consump. (gals.)	M.P.G.	Cost per Mile.	Cost per Hour.	Cost per Day.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.					p.	d.	£ s. d.
1	241 17 3	106 4 6	46 10 11	132 17 0	130 0 0	13 17 1	1 15 0	673 1 9	205	5310	991	5.36	30.42	89.55	3 5 8
2	259 16 3	81 6 11	46 10 10	151 1 10	130 0 0	12 9 1	1 15 0	682 19 11	270	7602	851	8.93	21.56	69.0	2 10 7
3	269 4 8	172 8 6	83 0 0	245 7 8	225 0 0	46 12 0	1 15 1	1043 7 11	230	4680	1747	2.68	53.50	123.75	4 10 9
4	107 6 9	40 8 8	39 3 4	78 19 8	65 0 0	3 13 8	—	334 12 1	106	2774	421	6.59	28.95	86.14	3 3 2
TOTAL	878 4 11	400 8 7	215 5 1	608 6 2	550 0 0	76 11 10	5 5 1	2734 1 8							

TABLE 12.

RECORD OF KITCHEN WASTE COLLECTIONS AND SALES

during the period 1st April, 1949, to 31st March, 1950.

Month.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	Value.		
					£	s.	d.
April	9	17	1	0	15	12	1
May	9	17	2	0	25	19	9
June	9	2	2	0	24	0	5
July	8	5	3	0	21	16	8
August	13	11	3	0	35	14	10
September	10	19	0	0	32	14	3
October	9	9	0	0	25	11	11
November	7	14	2	0	20	18	8
December	6	18	1	0	18	14	7
January	9	1	0	0	24	10	2
February	7	16	2	0	21	3	11
March	9	2	2	0	24	14	4
TOTALS	111	15	2	0	£291	11	7

TABLE 13.

**RECORD OF "CONCENTRATE" SOLD TO PIG AND
POULTRY KEEPERS.**

Month.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	Value.		
					£	s.	d.
April	6	7	0	0	30	11	3
May	7	7	0	0	50	3	11
June	5	14	0	0	38	19	10
July	5	6	0	0	36	7	6
August	8	11	0	0	58	14	3
September	7	16	0	0	53	1	8
October	7	7	0	0	50	3	3
November	4	10	0	0	31	3	2
December	4	13	0	0	32	2	9
January	6	11	0	0	45	4	11
February	5	4	0	0	35	2	8
March	5	8	0	0	37	3	8
TOTALS	74	14	0	0	£498	18	10

TABLE 14.

**KITCHEN WASTE AND CONCENTRATE
COLLECTION AND DELIVERY COSTS,**

Period 1st April, 1949, to 31st March, 1950.

No.	Item.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Gross Income:		
	Collection and Disposal	790 10 5	
	Claims on Ministry	65 5 10	855 16 3
	Gross Income—Collection and Disposal		855 16 3
	Less Gross Expenditure:		
1.	Payments for Swill	39 13 3	
2.	Payments for Concentrate... ..	407 5 10	
3.	Transport (including Driver)... ..	305 14 3	
4.	Wages (Additional Labour)	91 18 9	
5.	100 Kitchen Waste Containers	37 10 0	
6.	12 Dustbins from Store	12 5 4	
7.	Advertising	0 7 0	894 14 5
	Net Loss—Collection and Disposal		£38 18 2

TABLE 15.

RODENT CONTROL.

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE, Year ending 31st March, 1950.

No.	Item.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1.	Bait	0 19 0	
2.	Poison	1 2 4	
3.	Stationery, etc.	4 4 2	
4.	Bicycle Repairs	0 19 0	
5.	Salary of Assistant Rodent Officer	324 4 7	331 9 1
	Gross Expenditure—Destruction of Rats... ..		331 9 1
	Gross Income—Destruction of Rats		164 5 0
	Net Expenditure—Destruction of Rats		£167 4 1

TABLE 16.

RODENT CONTROL.

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

Month.	No. of Premises Inspected.	No. of Points Baited.				Bait Taken.			Bodies Recovered.	Estimated Total Kill.
		Prebait.	Poison.	Postbait.	Prebait.	Poison.	Postbait.			
January	210	314	75	243	235	57	23	28	75	
February	186	378	78	255	242	59	21	22	74	
March	208	439	61	243	259	55	4	22	65	
April	156	389	102	188	189	77	—	29	86	
May	186	343	55	264	216	41	8	30	56	
June	218	538	108	265	363	76	—	35	115	
July	207	392	105	383	373	92	25	25	76	
August	108	420	97	234	379	94	21	23	89	
September	211	502	108	333	356	96	—	29	83	
October	202	398	97	335	310	87	—	27	86	
November	109	217	50	127	197	39	—	17	46	
December	200	323	104	282	267	99	14	30	92	
TOTALS	2201	4653	1040	3152	3386	872	116	317	943	

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1949 FOR THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH IN THE COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the
Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	No. on Register.	Number of		
		Inspec- tions.	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	38	51	2	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	76	150	2	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	114	201	4	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:

Particulars.	No. of cases in which defects were found.				
	Found	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	18	12	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	5	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	2	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	6	5	—	—	—
TOTAL	35	22	—	2	—

OUTWORKER SECTION—NIL.

